

23

A
DESCRIPTION 1008
OF THE TRUE
T E M P L E
And Worship of
G O D.

And Jesus Christ manifested to be the Head
of the Church, which is his Body, and
the onely Pastour

And also the Members of the Body of Christ, known
by their fruits, from the Synagogue of Antichrist, with a
few words to the Romane Catholicks.

Likewise the order of the Church in God the Body of Christ
made manifest, and the disorder of the Synagogue of An-
tichrist.

24

*Given forth in the fear of the Lord, in obedience to his pure Will, for
the edification of all people who have any true and simple desires in
them, after the knowledge of the naked, simple truth, as it is in
Jesus Christ, by a lover of the souls of all people, who in con-
tempt and scorn by this dark generation are called Quaker, known
to man by the name of*

John Harwood.

London, Printed for Thomas Simmons, at the Bull and
mouth near Alder-gate, 1658.

CPB 44.510.25

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
FROM THE
ANDREW PRESTON PEABODY
FUND

February 6, 1937

A Description of the Temple and Worship of God, &c.

1009

The true Church manifested to be the Body of Christ, and not the externall Temples made With hands, and Christ exalted who is Supreme head of his Church, and the Teacher of the Members of his body, and the end of the first Priesthood,



THE Eternall God, that made the world, and all things therein, who gives life to all living creatures, dwelleth not in Temples made with hands, neither is he worshipped with mens hands, as people may imagine, but the Almighty dreadfull God is a Spirit, and the true worshipper: worship him in the Spirit, and so he will be worshipped, and is and hath been so served and worshipped by the true Christians, the faithfull worshippers created anew in Christ, ever since Christ came in the flesh, the living substance, who prophesied of the destruction of the Temple, which Solomon builded for the Service of God in the time of the Law, which Temple and Service in its time was agreeable to the will of God, being duly and truly observed, according to the requirings of the Law, and the first Priesthood, as they stood faithfull in the Councell of the Lord, their service and offerings was accepted, but their time was but untill Christ came in the flesh; the everlasting, unchangeable High Priest, in whom the Righteousnesse of the Law is fulfilled, who is made a Priest for ever, after the order of Melchisedech; he puts an end to the (first Priesthood) Law, the carnall Ordinances, offerings, and outward observations, Rites, and Ceremonies contained in the Law, which were Types, figures, and shadows, all fulfilled in Christ the living Substance, the end of the Law and the Prophets, for the substance, the end of all things, the eternall son

Mat 17.
Mat 7.

Heb. 7. of the dreadfull God being come, the shadows and figures cease and end, the first Priesthood, which was the changeable Priesthood, had its time untill the coming of Jesus Christ, the eternall, unchangeable Priest, and then changed, and the Law also: And this is he (at whom the whole world is offended, who makes themselves Priests after the Law of a carnall commandement) who is made high Priest for ever over the household of God, not made by a carnall ~~law~~ commandement (as the Priests of the world are, who receive their orders & Commissions from man; so made by the will of man) but after the power of an endlesse life; and they who have not Christ to be their chief Shepherd, and high Priest, are none of his sheep, nor of the household of God; whatsoever in words may be professed of him; for there are many that draw nigh with their mouths and lips, but their heart far from him.

Heb. 10. The Law made nothing perfect, as the Scripture of truth affirms, but Christ Jesus the substance hath by one offering perfected for ever them that be sanctified; the daily sacrificers the Priests themselves, who daily offered sacrifice for themselves and the people in the outward Temple, according to the Custom of the Law, were not made perfect as pertaining to the conscience, for that by the works of the Law, no flesh can be justified, if there had been perfection in the works of the law under the first Priesthood; what need had there been for a change of the law and the Priesthood, but not being of force, to make the comers thereunto perfect, nor the Priests themselves: therefore there was a necessity, for the change of the law and the Priesthood, for as saith *Paul*, if there had been perfection by the Leviticall Priesthood (for under it the people received the law) what further need was there, that another Priesthood should arise after the order of *Melchisedech*, and not be called after the order of *Aaron*; for the Priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity also a change of the law.

Heb. 7.
11. 12.

Wherefore I say, all such people, as now go to, and uphold the outward Temple and Synagogue, and observe the ancient customes, the Rites and Ceremonies contained in the law; follow the example of the Jews, and the first Priesthood and their practises.

practises, and so goes on in the way where perfection cannot be attained, nor the light of life received.

It was the labour and practice of the Apostles, the primitive Christians, to go into the Temple and Synagogues, and to declare against their carnall Ordinances, weak and beggarly Elements, which had no strength nor power in them to bring people to perfection, and to call them forth of these things to follow Jesus Christ, the everlasting unchangeable high Priest, who by one offering hath perfected for ever them that be sanctified, and so many as believed and received Christ, which the Saints in light preached, left the outward Temple and worship, and forsook the types, figures, and shadows, and the rudiments of the world, and followed Christ and they recived the light of life, the knowledge of God, and in Christ was created anew, and so became Christians, forsaking the old way, and following the new, and living way, which all be out of, who uphold the outward *Col. 2. 20* Temple and be in the Rudiments of the world, the carnall Or- *21, 22, 23* dinances, and outward observations, whose performances stands in their own wills and time: take notice, they who continued in the outward Temple worship were not called Christians, and though ye Temple worshippers call your selves Christians, and go under the name of believers in Christ, neverthelesse your practises and fruits manifests the contrary, with the eternall eye, ye are seen to be in the same nature and life of the Jews and Infidels, who were enemies to Christ and the primitive Christians, for ye have but the talk or names of Christ and the Saints, out of the nature and life of the living substance.

The Temple which King Solomon builded, Iesus Christ the e- *Mat. 24.* verlasting unchangeable high Priest, foretold the destruction of, *Mar. 13.* and told his Disciples, that there should not be left one stone up- *Luk. 21.* on another, that should not be thrown down, and after the Prophecie of Christ was fulfilled, the Temple destroyed, the Scripture of truth doth not mention, that ever the Lord commanded one other to be builded, but the Iews, Scribes, Pharisees and Infidels, who murdered the just, who were in darkness, upheld the outward Temple, and Synagogues (as the truths enemies do now) and have builded many Temples and Synagogues

Synagogues, following their own imaginations and inventions, and the Superstitious traditions and Ceremonies of the enemies of Christ, (and the harmlesse Christians) not regarding Christ, nor the Doctrine of the Apostles, who declared against them, and told people in plain words, God dwelt not in them, as is in the Scripture of truth recorded, Which shall stand a witness for ever against all their upholders,

Act. 17.

Act. 7.

And as the Temple-worshippers in former ages were ready to cry up their Temple and worship, after God had removed his Candlestick from it, even so it is at this day, they in the Primitive times upheld and cried up the Temple-worship, and services therein, when the Lord was departed out of them, and there was no life to be found in them; and they persecuted, imprisoned, and shamefully intreated the Christians in whom was the Life, whose bodies were the Temple of the living God, and the cryers up, and upholders of the idolized houses, the externall Temples and Synagogues (which they call commonly Churches) and the daily services, follows the same example, though they call themselves by the name of Christians; but your fruits and practises makes you clearly manifest, ye are as the Jews and unbelievers were in former ages, without the Life and Power of truth and righteousness, and enemies to it:

1 Cor. 3.

Likewise, the heathenish Idolaters, set up Temples for to worship their idol-gods in, and they cryed up their outward Temple, the Temples of *Diana*, *Great is the Temple of Diana*, and the upholders of the Temple of *Diana* was in a great up-rore against the Apostle *Paul*, for declaring against their abominable superstition and idolatry, and with all their force and power in a tumultuous manner, resisted the power and life of truth, and cryed up their own idol, as all the Sects and opinions do now, every particular Sect cryes up their own way, but all enemies to the life and power of truth, and can all agree in one to persecute the Temple of God, in whom the life of God is made manifest, ye who are gathered into various forms, though in judgment and opinion ye from one another differ, and be at enmity one against another; nevertheless in this Nation of

Act. 19.

of England, as well as in other Nations and Islands: ye can joy together, and make warre against the children of light, speake and write against the life of truth, and beat, imprison and persecute the bodies of the Saints, in whom the life and power of truth is manifested, in the former ages as may be read in the Scriptures of truth, the chief Priests, Scribes and Pharisees, the Libertines, Sadduces, and *Alexandrians*, all were enemies to Christ and the primitive Christians, and even so are the various formalists in this age, all enemies to the chosen of the Lord, the elect seed, but it is our joy, that our God hath called us unto such an high calling, and counted us worthy to suffer in innocency for his pure names sake, glory, honour, praise, and eternall dominion, be given unto our God; all ye dear innocent Lambs who suffer for Righteousnesse sake, rejoyce and sing praises unto the Lord our God for ever, the day of your eternall Redemption draweth nigh, your enemies, the enemies of truth and innocency, the Lord our God will confound and destroy, and through patient suffering we shall all be crowned with victory, and triumph and rejoyce over all Gods enemies for ever. Blessed are ye for ever who abide the fiery tryall, for yours is the dominion for ever; but who ever shrinks in the time of suffering, when the great day of tryall shall come, shall never reign with Christ the Captain of our salvation, who was made perfect through suffering; but ye who continue to the end, are blessed for ever, and shall reign as Kings over all the earth.

And ye Temple-worshippers in this age, manifest your selves to be as blind and ignorant concerning the mystery of life and salvation, as your forefathers were, the enemies of truth and righteousness in the former ages, who did not believe in Christ the substance, who put an end to all types and figures, though ye pretend ye believe in Christ, and go under the name of Christians; but all are not Christians that go under that name, for all ye that be from the light with which Christ Jesus hath enlightened you, and deny the light, and call it a naturall light, or a fancy, as many of ye have done, be out of the way of Truth, Life, Peace, and salvation; for there is no Life, Peace nor salvation in any other but the true light, which hath enlightened every

every man that is come into the world, and I say unto you, untill you come to own the light of Christ in you, and it receive to be your guide and leader, you cannot receive the light of life: the way of life, peace and eternall salvation, the light will lead you if you believe in it, and receive it to be acted by it, which wil for ever be sealed from you, if ye continue in enmity to it, and hate, and despise it, and will be your condemnation for ever from the inheritance of the Righteous: none upon the face of the whole earth can come into the perfect knowledge of the secret mystery of life and salvation, but by the Light with which Christ hath enlightened them; for it is the key of Divine knowledge, it being owned and received, it will clear and open the understanding, and give truly to know the secret mystery of eternal life and salvation, which cannot be attained any other way, but by the light, which is the eye with which the face of God is seen in Christ, the eternall Divine substance, in whom all fulnesse dwells, which Divine secret is hid eternally from all that deny and refuse the light in them, with which the expresse image of the Fathers glorious substance, Christ hath enlightened them.

Also I say, all people upon the face of the whole earth, under what name or Title of Religion soever, that make mention of the name of Jesus Christ, and are from the light with which the true light Christ hath enlightened them, are out of the nature and life of Christ, and are no true Christians, but are in the flesh, and brings forth the fruits of the flesh, and such as be in the flesh be enemies in their minds to Christ, and the true innocent Christians: the fleshly man in all ages hath been, an enemy to the Spirituall man, as in particular, in the general, the flesh makes war against the Spirit, the fleshly man against the Spirituall man, and strives with all his might and force to have the rule over the spirituell man; but thou fleshly man thy Strength is the Arm of flesh, and thy weapons of Warre are carnal, and thou canst not prevail against the man born of the Spirit, for the Lord of hosts is his strength, who is Mighty and Powerfull, who will cut downe by the Word of his Power, the Sword of his Mouth, and give him

him dominion over thee, though thou use all thy craft and subtil policy, for to bring the spirituall seed under thee, yet thou shalt know that God hath decreed the contrary; for this is the day of the Lords mercy, and the innocent seed, which hath long been sore oppressed by the unrighteous generation of fleshly men, shall now be freed from bondage and thralldome; and I know the day draws nigh wherein this shall be fulfilled; though the utmost of your wrath and cruelty, you will manifest, who walk in the flesh, yet all your striving, plotting, and close combining and unrighteous decrees, shall stand you in no stead, for the elect seed, according to the determinate Counsell of the Almighty God shall now be set free, as well from outward bondage, as inward, and shall reign and govern in righteousness, over all the earth for evermore; our God according to his promise, for his elect sake, will hasten his work, a short work, he will make upon the earth, now woe, woe, to the oppressors of Sion great will be your misery pain and torment, of your grief and sorrow there shall be no end; but blessed art thou who art hated, and despised, persecuted, and shamefully entreated, mocked and scorned, and not counted worthy to live upon the earth, thy grief and sorrow, shall be turned into everlasting joy, thou shalt sing and be glad, when thy enemies mourn and lament, thy time of sorrow is come in remembrance with God, and he will plead thy cause against thy oppressors, and give thee ease and peace for ever, and over the smoke of their torment shalt thou rejoyce, and the time draweth nigh wherein our God will bring this to pass.

Gods people, his Temple; and who they are.

THE Apostle Paul writes unto the Corinthians in plain words, concerning the Temple of God; which might stop the mouths of all the Carnall professors upon the earth, who call a stone-house their Church or Temple; if the words were truly weighed and beleaved; know ye not
 1 Cor. 3.
 16.
 (saith

(saith he) that ye are the Temple of God; and the spirit of God dwelleth in you, if any defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are, but the whole earth hath been covered with thick darkness, in this long time of Apostacy, that the understandings of most part of people hath been veiled and blinded, that the knowledge of the truth and life of the holy Scriptures hath been sealed from them, and are to thousands at this day; who make a profession of it; and by many thousands of people in this Nation and other Nations, the stone houses, the Idol Temples made with mens hands, are called Churches and Temples; and are esteemed to be more holy places then others; though the Scripture clearly manifests to the true understanding Reader, that the people of God are his Church
 2 Cor. 6. or Temple; ye are (saith Paul to the Church of Corinth) the
 16. Temple of the living God, as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; take notice, the people in whom God dwells and walks are his Temple; but if any of Gods people, whom he hath chosen to be his tabernacle; do now bear testimony of the spirit of life dwelling in them, it is by this dark generation of people counted presumption, and by some blasphemy; because it is beyond the reach of their carnal reason and sensuall wisdom, which never shall enter into the true knowledge of this mystery, God dwelling in man and man dwelling in God; and furthermore, Paul saith to
 1 Cor. 6. to the Church at Corinth, what know ye not that your body
 19. is the temple of the holy Spirit which is in you is not this a plain thing, that the people of God are his temple, and dwelling place, if you will beleeeve the Scriptures, you cannot deny the truth of this which is so clearly made manifest. And these are Gods people; who walk in his light and Counsell, who are borne againe of the incorruptible seed, who have put off the old man with his deeds, and put on the new man Christ Iesus, and this is the same body as ever was; the temple God dwells in; the body purged from sin and corruption, and this is the eternall tabernacle of God, the new man, Christ Iesus the same to day yesterday and for ever, but such people as be in the corruptible nature, not purged

purged nor cleansed from sin and corruption, are not the holy temple of God; such as bring forth the fruits of unrighteousness, and hath no experience of the inward work of Gods living power in them, but are ignorant of the work of regeneration, they be none of the body of Christ the temple of God, but the Synagogue of Satan, the body of Anti-Christ; for it is they and onely they, who are (borne of the spirit and walk after the spirit, (to walk after the spirit is to be led and guided by it) which brings forth the peaceable fruit of righteousness which knows the operation of the divine power, and the work of Regeneration wrought in them, which are the true and onely temple of God; ye who are Regenerate, and born again of the immortall seed, ye are the true Christians body of Christ, temple of God, and Gods dwelling house and tabernacle, ye babes of God, who through the eternall spirit, hath mortified the lust and Concupiscence of the flesh, Crucified the old man with his deeds; from whom all old things are passed away; who are created a new unto good works, ye are the Church of the first borne, your body is the temple of the eternall God, and he will dwell in you, and make his abode with you for ever.

*The members of the body of Christ known by their fruits
from the Synagogue of Anti-Christ.*

YE who be of the body of Christ, from sin and iniquity are purged and cleansed through the Spirit, by which ye are baptised into the one body, and ye cannot bring forth evil fruits, ye are known one of another in the life of innocency, though the world know ye not, ye are meek, loving and full of tender compassion, ye cannot render evil for evil to no person, ye are patient and long suffering, willing freely to forgive them that trespass against you, your humility and moderation is manifest to the light in all consciences, ye are not puffed up with pride and conceitedness, but are low and little in your own eyes, ye cannot seek after earthly honour or riches, but are content with what the Lord provides for you,

you, and ye seek onely after the honour of God, ye are no self-lovers, but self-denyers, no followers of the worlds fashions, Customs or traditions but of Iesus Christ, whose kingdom is not of the world who alone is your Head, King, Priest and Prophet, ye who goe under the name of members of the Church of Christ, and call one another Brother, and Sister, who pretend to have Communion and fellowship with one another, search your hearts with the light of Christ, and it will not deceive you, but let you truly see, in what your fellowship hath stood and stands, and will clearely manifest unto you, whether ye be in the spirit of truth and righteousness yea or no; if ye be, then the fruits before mentioned ye will bring forth abundantly, which are the fruits of the spirit, and your Communion and fellowship will stand, and as ye abide in the life of truth and righteousness, your love and unity will grow and increase, and your pure lives and holy conversations will make you manifest to be members of the body of Christ; but if you see with the light of Christ self-love, pride, covetousness, rashness, self-wildness, envy and uncharitableness, then know that if these things remaine in you and things of the like nature, that your Communion and fellowship, is in the flesh and not in the spirit, formal and not eternall, and ye are none of the living stones which the temple of God is built on, none of the members of the body of Christ, but of Anti-Christ, the body of Christ is washed in his blood which cleanseth from all unrighteousness, unrighteousness, uncleanness, and all sin and iniquity is out of the body of Christ, the Church in God; in the body of Anti-Christ, the enemy of the Church of God; All ye formalists who are puffed up in pride and arrogancy, who have gotten the Saints words to talk on in your airy minds, and live at ease in vain pleasures and wantonness, your words and policy shall stand you in no stead, in this the day of the Lord, you shall appear in your own likeness, your close hypocrity and your fained humility, shall not cover you, nor save you from the judgements of the dreadfull God, your hearts shall be made naked and bare; and your
reward

reward you shall have, with the wicked and-ungodly, your shame and confusion, ye shall no longer hide, ye shall be known whose servants and Children ye are, and of what body ye are members, and that Anti-christ is your head, and not Christ, the body of Christ is purged from all secret deceit, treachery, and close hypocrisy, and is filled with righteousness, purity and innocency, every particular member of the Church in God (this pillar and ground of truth) knows the work of sanctification, by the powerfull operation of the word of truth are thorowly cleansed and sanctified, and by the divine power joyned and united unto Christ the head of his Church which is his body; he is no member of the Church of Christ what ever he profess, that lives after the flesh, and knows not the work of the Eternall Spirit of judgement and burning, which mortifies the fleshly desires and lusts, and purges and cleanses the heart thorowly from sin and iniquity; for it is the work of the spirit to purifie, and the body purified without spot, is the body of Christ, the Church of God, no unclean person can be united to the body of Christ, though thousands of unclean people, may come amongst the members of his body, yet no defiled thing can be joyned to it, for it is pure without spot, and members of the Church in God feels, enjoys, one another in the life of pure love, and their unity and fellowship, stands not in outward formallity; but in the pure life of truth and innocency, where they meet and imbrace one another, and are refreshed one in another, in the love, and life which changeth not; which all men and women upon the face of the whole earth are out of, which be from the light, with which Christ hath enlightned them; for the light leads into the life of innocency, where the eternall unity stands.

The Church made of living Stones.

THe living stones of which the Church of God is made, are the people who have passed from death to life, who are

are dead to sin, and alive unto righteousness, such as have passed thorow much sorrow and many tribulations, and hath seen the travail of their souls, and are satisfied with the birth of the immortall seed, which is borne and brought forth in them; they in whom the righteous seed is raised, and the unrighteous nature destroyed, which was dead in sin and transgression, and made alive unto God; and now lives in the light, the life of righteousness, are the Church of God, the House of God, the tabernacle of the most high, and in them the Lord of Hosts is sanctified, who will be sanctified in all that draw nigh unto him; and in ye who are raised up in the life and power of truth and righteousness is the living praises; for the living praises God, the dead cannot praise him, the life, which through the operation of the Eternal Spirit is raised, which purgeth from sin and iniquity glorifies God and praises God, and these are the living stones on which the Church of God is builded, who are borne of the immortall seed; whose delight is to walk in the Counsell of the Lord, and to serve and obey him, which cannot delight in themselves nor in their own works, and truly it is not grievous to the living stones, the Babes born of God to follow the Counsell of their Father, for it is the nature of the seed of God to doe the will of him, who hath through the power of his free love and tender mercy begotten it unto himselfe, ye in whom the babe immortal is born and brought forth, can seal to the truth of this, though to many it may seem to be a strange doctrine, who be ignorant of the work of God, and knows not the birth of the seed immortall; but truly I know that as *John* saith, that the

Job. 5. 3. Commandements of the Lord our God are not grievous unto us his Children, who are begotten and borne of him, but rather joy us, yea it is our joy to serve the Lord our God, and to keep his pure Commandements, as it was the delight of his faithfull servant *David* to walk in his Commandements which he loved; but who be in the transgression, in the disobedience loves not God, neither delighteth in his commands, but loves themselves, their own ways, and

and rejoyceth in their iniquities, and delighteth in the things which are perishing, which profiteth not but such are dead in sin, though alive in the fleshly body, and are none of the living stones which the Church of God is made on.

Iesus Christ head of his Church, and the onely Pastour.

MAny people there are that in words make a profession of Christ and the Scriptures, and will say they beleeve in Christ, yet will not own him to be their Pastour and chief Shepheard, as the Church in God owned him, and confessed him, as the Scripture of truth makes manifest, yet account themselves to be his Church and people; but such as cannot own him to be their teacher and leader clearly manifests themselves to be none of his flock; for the Sheep of Christ, know his voice and follow him, and regards not the voice of the stranger, and they who know his voice, observe his counsell, and follow his leadings and directions, for how doth any man follow Christ, if he doe not hearken to his pure Counsell, and obey what he requires, Christ saith himself, *I am the good Shepheard and know my sheep*, and am known of mine, and such as know Christ and are known of him, need no other Pastour or Shepheard, he is sufficient to guide his own flock, and such as make a profession of him in words and shew outwardly, (as the various formalists doe) and will not own him to be sufficient, without other helps, to teach them the way of life and salvation, shews that they know him not, for if they knew him, they would know that there is no salvation in any other, all power and authority is committed unto the true light Christ Iesus, the everlasting unchangeable high Priest, who is over the household of God, their head and Pastour, and who are not under his Scepter and Government, what ever they profess in words of him, they are none of his subjects, none of his body, none of his Church, but the subjects of Antichrist; for whose Scepter and Government ye
are

are under, his servants, and subjects ye are; if Christ govern then are ye guided in the way of truth & righteousness, which is the strait path which leads to life eternall; and ye cannot follow the broad path of wickedness and unrighteousness, which leads to perdition and eternall destruction; for the Church of Christ who are subject to him, are restrained by his saving power from the evill way, and kept in the pure way, the way of holiness, for he goeth before, and his flock follow him, and they that follow his leadings cannot erre from the way of truth and holiness, who goe on in the ways of wickedness follows not Christ, he doth not goe before them but Anti-christ, the enemy of Christ he is the King of unrighteousness, and the wicked his subjects follow him, so that ye who be in the sin and unrighteousness, and plead for sin remaining in you, so long as ye live upon the earth, ye are none of the subjects of Christ; for he saves his people from their sins, Christ is none of your King, Priest nor Prophet, who are not governed by him and saved from your sins; ye are none of the members of his body; who be in your sins, the members of his body are purified and cleansed, without spot or blemish; Take dilligent notice, the Church in God which is the body of Christ, is without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, holy and without blemish; and of this sanctified body, Christ is the Head and Saviour, who saveth to the utmost all them that come unto God by him, and such a glorious high Priest becometh the Church of God, who is able to save and defend them from the power of sin and Satan, and to present it without spot or fault unto God the Father of Spirits; who hath set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, and hath put all things under his feet, and hath given him to be the Head of his Church which is his body; such people as choose a man (or men) and set him (or them) up to be their teacher (or teachers) Christ is not their pastour nor teacher, such as set up man, and dishonours Christ, ye that choose a man and set him up to be your Head, and receives Orders and Commissions from him, you goe about to take the authority from Christ,

Eph. 5.

Eph. 1.

Christ, and to rob him of his glory, who in all things ought to have the preheminance, who is the everlasting unchangeable high Priest, in whom there is no variableness nor shadow of turning, he alone is the Supreme of his Church, and the members of his body receive orders and directions from him; they know his voice, and follow his Counsell, and need not seek unto man, so sets not up man, but Christ to be Supreme Ruler, head and Governour, who is most worthy to have the Government of his own body, who is over all, God blessed for ever, he is the same yesterday, to day, and for ever, and his Church is the same, the chaste, pure, holy Virgin, which he hath chosen to be his spouse for ever, he is not espoused, nor will not espouse himself to an harlot, an adulterer, that followeth after other lovers, such as follow their imaginations and inventions, and loves themselves the world and its glory, such are none of Christs spouse, for the Bride, the Lambs wife follows the Lamb, denies the world, its pomp and glory, and tramples upon all vain traditions, foolish inventions, and earthly imaginations, and over all the earth reigns, and gives glory to him who redeems them from the earth.

Therefore all people upon the face of the whole earth who make a profession of believing in the name of Christ, turn in your minds to his light in you, with which he hath enlightened you, and in it wait patiently, that you may come to know his saving power, which is nigh you, if ye were but acquainted with it, which if you cease from man, and your own works and imaginations, and take heed to the light of Christ in you which shew you your thoughts, desires, and evil deeds, the saving power of his love, you would shortly come to know and feel, which would rend the vails which hath darkned your understandings, and give ye to see into the secrets of God, the Church in God you would come to know, and Christ to be the chief Shepherd, the everlasting, unchangeable priest, the light is the eternall eye which sees and searches into the deep secrets of God, and ye cannot come to know the true Church, nor the order and Government thereof, untill you come to the light in you, and receive it to be your guide, which light leads to

Christ from whence it comes, who reveals and makes known the deep secret mysteries of life, peace, and eternall salvation, which you can never attain unto by any other means, for man by reading, studying, praying in his own will, and observing duties and outward Ordinances, can never find out the knowledge of God and his secrets; for whatsoever man doth in his own will, and time, is but his own work, and not the work of God, and all men and women upon the face of the whole earth must cease from their own works, before they enter into the true rest, the rest prepared for the children of God, which is in Christ the true light, which enlighteneth every one that cometh into the world in him the fulnesse of the Godhead dwells bodily, and all that dwell in the truth, in the light, in Christ, dwell in peace; for in me saith Christ, *I have peace*; dwell in the light, in Christ, free from the condemning power of the Law, but out of the light in darknesse, under the condemning power of the Law, under the curse and wrath of God; this is the way of true knowledge, the light loving it, and the way of life and peace to all that receive it, to be their leader, and for ever blessed are they that submit to the Scepter of Jesus Christ, and continue under his Government unto the end; for they shall have an inheritance with the righteous generation, in the world which hath no end.

A Dis-

*A Discovery of the true worship of God,
the order of the true Church, and the
Disorder of the Synagogue of Anti-
christ.*

MAny various Forms there are in these our latter dayes, who all pretend to be believers in Christ, and call themselves by the names of Christians, yet in judgement and opinion one differ from another: Yea, in severall points, principles and doctrines, and in the ministration of their ordinances, which they call the ordinances of Christ, as Baptisme, their Sacraments, preaching, praying, singing of *David's* conditions, and private duties, as they call them, which all are performed in their own wills, and in their own times, which will-worship is contrary to the worship of God, and is to perish, as the Scripture of truth doth affirm, as may be read in *Colossians* the 2. chap. 20, 21, 22, 23 *Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world are ye subject to Ordinances (touch not, taste not; handle not, which all are to perish with the using) after the commandments and doctrines of men, which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will-worship & humility, and neglecting of the body; Take notice, the will-worshippers neglect the body which is the substance, and continues in the perishing shadows which profiteth not: all the doctrines of men, and carnal ordinances, which have their rise and foundation from the imagination of the fleshly wisdom, are to perish, for they are all without life, and all ye various formalists, who feed upon such things, feed upon husks, and something there is in you, which cannot be satisfied with such food, but often shews the emptinesse of all your duties, and self-performances, and will-worship, though you little regard it, ye are so highly puffed up in the knowledge*

of what your imaginations hath led you into, and though your Souls famish for want of living bread, yet many of you are content to take up your rest in these perishing things, which can never give true satisfaction to the hungry soul, but onely nourishes and feeds the carnall mind, which is enmity to God, and there are all the Forms of Religion upon the face of the whole earth, who deny the light of *Jesus Christ the chief corner-stone*, who is the true and sure foundation, in enmity against the truth, and enemies to the true worshippers, who are builded upon the *sure foundation, who worship God in the Spirit, and in the truth.*

Now verily, verily, I say unto you, the truth is but one, the true worship but one, the true Church which is the body of Christ, but one: the Members of the body of Christ differ not in any thing, but are of one heart, one mind, and one soul, their doctrine, principles, and way of worship but one, no rent nor schisme in the body of Christ, all divisions, differences, and contrary judgements, and opinions are in the corrupt, erroneous body of Anti-christ, which is the body of confusion, of whose body all are members who deny the true light, which Jesus Christ hath enlightened them with, which light is the way out of confusion, into true and perfect union.

The Worship of God.

John 4.

GOD is a Spirit, and seeketh such to worship him, who will worship him in the Spirit, and in the truth, saith Christ the Son of God; and the eternall Father commands people to hear him, *This is my beloved Son* saith the Father of Spirits, *hear ye him*, but all ye that be from the Spirit, and out of the light in your imaginations, following after carnal Ordinances, the doctrine and traditions of men, hearkens not to the voice of the Son of God, who saith, *God is a Spirit, and will be worshipped in Spirit, and in the truth*, but rejects the Councell of the Son, and disobeyes the

pure

pure command of God the Father, who saith, *This is my beloved Son, hear ye him*; And all ye Professours upon the face of the whole earth, be without God, who erre from and abide not in the Doctrine of Christ the onely Son of the Fathers love: How do ye love the Son of God, that keeps not his sayings, but erres from his counsels and Commands, who saith God is a Spirit, and will be worshipped in Spirit, and in the truth, is not this the true way of worship, which Jesus Christ hath prescribed? is there any other way agreeable to the will of the Father, than the way which his onely Son hath manifested? who came not to do his own will, but the will of his Father that sent him, and this is the will of the Father, to have his people to worship him, in the Spirit, and in the truth; for so will God be served and worshipped. Therefore all people take notice, the true service and worship of God is in the Spirit, and in the truth, and stands not in carnall ordinances, nor externall shews, neither consists in outward bowing, Ceremonies, and traditions of men, which is but the exercise of the body, and the exercise of the body profiteth nothing, the living, eternall God, who is pure, just and holy, seeketh such worshippers to worship him, who will worship him in the Spirit, and in the truth, and all people who be turned to the light of Christ in them, with it are guided, and in it walk, be in the truth, (the light is truth) and in the Spirit, and in the truth worshipped the antient Christians in former ages, received the light, and were called the children of light, and as they were moved of the Lord, they exhorted one another to walk in the light, as children of the light, and of the day, and as they walked in the light, they had fellowship one with another, and with the Father and the Son, who is light, and in whom is no darknesse; take notice, the fellowship of the Saints is in the light, which is but one, and all in the light are but one, united by the Father of light, and spirits, and all people, that receive and abide in the light, walk in the Spirit, and in the truth, and in the spirit and truth worship God the Father of spirits, but all that be from the light be out of the truth, out of the spirit, in which God is worshipped, and worship they know
not

John 4.

not what, as Jesus Christ told the woman of *Samarita*, and said, that neither at *Jerusalem*, nor at the Mountain of *Samarita*, God the Father would be worshipped, *But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth*, for the Father seeketh such to worship him; *God is a spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth*. Take notice, *Jerusalem* was the City, where *Solomon* built a Temple for the Service and worship of God, according to his Command, and the Mountain of *Samarita* was also a place where people worshipped; Nevertheless the Son of God said, his Father would not be worshipped there, but the true worshippers must worship the Father in Spirit and in truth; Wherefore I say, all such Teachers as lead people to the external Temples (which they call Churches) and to the observation of carnall ordinances, and to follow after the Ordinances vain traditions, and doctrines of men from the spirituall Worship, are deceivers and Antichrists, for this same reason, because they teach people to uphold, follow and observe that which Jesus Christ and his Apostles declared against, and was never observed nor practised by the ancient Christians, recorded in the Scripture of truth for the Primitive Christians, that believed in, and followed Christ, denied and bare testimony against the outward Temple and Synagogues, and the customary places upheld by the Jews, and Infidels, and their traditions, and superstitious ceremonies; and met together at one anothers houses, in an upper chamber, or in an inner room, and waited upon the Lord in his light and counsell, for the manifestation of his Divine power, and according to his promise they enjoyed the powerfull presence of the Lord, who saith, where two or three meet together in my name, there am I in the midst of them, and when the Saints in light were assembled together, waiting in the pure fear of the Lord, as any of them were moved of the Lord, they preached and prayed; and exhorted one another in the fear and power of the Lord, and none were restrained from speaking, but all had liberty to speak that had a motion from the Lord, as the Scripture of truth makes manifest, if any thing were revealed

Col. 3.

A.E. 1.

13.

A.E. 20. 8

Gal. 5. 5.

Mat. 18.

20.

to any one in the Saints Assembly that sate by, the first was to hold his peace, that all might speak one by one, that all might be edified, this was the order and practice of the Saints in light, the Church in God, the body of Christ in former ages, and the same order and practice is in the true Church now at this day in the Assemblies of the children of light, who are hated and despised of this unrighteous generation, and in contempt and scorn called Quakers, but reproaches and unrighteous slanders cast upon us by *Ishmaels* line, we esteem as great riches, and are not ashamed to suffer for righteousness sake, but all ye various Forms, who push one at another, and all against the life of truth, ye shall wither as grasse in the heat of Summer, and fade as a flower, for the vertue and power of the Almighty ye want amongst you, for to support and uphold you, and the earth is your Centre, and a habitation in God, the life of righteousness ye have not, but in the earth, and the woe is coming upon the inhabitants of the earth, therefore, cease, cease from your inventions and airy imaginations, and fear and dread the pure name of the living God, and worship him, serve him, and give glory to him, that ye perish not in your iniquities with the ungodly, for truly the houre of his judgement is come, ye shall all be tryed and winnowed, and the wheat (the good seed) that is amongst you, shall be gathered into the Lords Garner, and the chaffe shall be burned with unquenchable fire, judgement is already begun at the house of God, where will the ungodly and sinners appear? now will the terrible Judge of heaven and earth give Sentence against you hypocrites and dissemblers, *Depart from me ye workers of iniquity, I know ye not*; except ye repent truly, and cease from your sins and iniquities, and with all your hearts turn unto the Lord God, and dread and fear his holy name, and walk in his light and counsell, and serve and worship him, as he will be worshipped, in the spirit, and in the truth; your time prize whilst the doore of mercy is open, lest it be shut against you, and ye in your gainsayings and Rebellion eternally perish.

To the Romane Catholicks.

ANd ye who are called Romane Catholicks, are the most dark and ignorant people, upon the face of the whole earth, that go under the names of Christians, your whole worship is made up in the imagination and invention of the wisdom of the flesh, none so foolish but the naturall heathen, to bow to the works of mens hands, in which there is no life, as ye do, and for many of your Ceremonies, and Traditions, ye have no other foundation, but the naturall Heathen, as one of your own professors doth confesse, as ye may read in the 587. Page of the Book called the Treasury of the Romane Antiquities, where the Authour expresses many of your Customes and practises in your Religion, and is not ashamed to say, ye borrowed them of the heathen; as that they hung their streets with Tapestrie, and had resting places in divers parts of the Towns, when they went in Procession, as ye have at this day, &c.

And that they carryed their images and reliques of their gods about, as ye do, and that they marched two and two together, carrying wax-candles or Torches in their hands, and the same is observed in your Religion; and hath been ever since the Procession was instituted.

And that they went afoot as ye do and when they were encompassed with misery, they went bare-foot, crying & mourning striving to appease the wrath of their gods, and ye in the time of your great calamities do practise the same Ceremonies; they ordained supplications and Lectures, that is, publick prayers and service, for more or less of dayes; and their Temples were full of calves, and their altars filled with offerings and all the holy places (as the Author terms them) were filled with people, kneeling and praying (to their Idols) to their gods, and ye have your Orizons of forty hours, your pardons and Jubilees, and observe the same Ceremonies, & severall other of the Customs and practises of the hea-

Heathen, this Authour declares of, and confesses they follow the same example; and practises the same in their Religion; which truly are such foolish things, that they are not worth the mentioning; but of this I would have ye Roman Catholicks to take notice; the sure foundation Christ Iesus, is none of your example, in any of these things, nor your foundation, nor the Apostles, the Primitive Christians; for Iesus Christ never practised, nor commanded, any such things to be observed; therefore if it had not been confessed by one of your own professors, I had known the rise and foundation of these things; wherefore I say unto you view your foundation and be ashamed, to take the name of Christians, and build upon the Heathen, and have no other example for your Ceremonies and traditions, but the Heathenish Idolaters, own your name according to your nature and disposition; for the true and Innocent Christian followeth the example of Christ, and hath no other foundation, but the chief corner stone; the true light Christ which hath enlightened every man that is come into the world, and who are built on this sure foundation the rock of ages, denyes and witnesseth against all the Customs, Ceremonies, and foolish traditions of the Heathenish Idolaters, and cannot follow their example in any thing, but follow the true light Iesus Christ, who gives his followers the light of life; so that in love to your souls, I desire you to cease from the customs of the Heathen, from your vain traditions and foolish Ceremonies in which there is no life, and follow Iesus Christ the everlasting unchangeable high Priest; for in him is the life, he is the substance, the way, truth, and life, and in him is the salvation; but no salvation in your ceremonies and vain traditions; truly my soul pitties you, to see, how you are blinded and kept in ignorance from the knowledge of the truth, by the spirit of error, which hath long deceived the Nations; and yet are highly conceited of your selves, and

of your Religion; which is made up of foolish and vain imaginations and inventions of the old crooked Serpent, who through his subtilty hath detained and deluded your Fore-fathers in the time of Apostacy, and still makes a prey upon you their successours, who cryes up the antiquity of your Religion, as if the long continuance of it were sufficient to prove it to be the true Religion, but then the Jews, who pretend to be *Moses* Disciples may plead the antiquity of their Religion, who are of a longer standing then ye, if antiquity were a sufficient proof, and they have Scripture for their Temple-offerings and services in the old Testament; but ye who pretend to be the Disciples of Christ, have no Scripture in the new Testament for the upholding of your temple, daily services, ceremonies and traditions; but all such things testified against by the holy men, which gave the Scripture forth; so that the rise and foundation of your Religion is the imagination and invention of the sensuall wisdom, from which wisdom the secrets of God and the true Christian Religion is hid; the Eternall God of power and infinit wisdom, if it be his glorious will open your eyes, that ye may see the vanity of externall things, which ye feed upon; and bring you to serve him in the spirit, and to worship him in the truth, that you may no longer feed upon carnall imaginations and inventions, but upon the bread of life, the substance which is the immortall food, which refreshes and nourisheth the soul up to life eternall.

And all ye forms of Religion under what name or title soever, who set up teachers amongst you, and will not permit any to speak in your Assemblies, but such as ye in your own wills set up and appoint ye are the people who heape to your selves teachers having Itching ears, ye are out of the order of the Church in God, where all the members have liberty to speak one by one; in the disorder and confusion, which makes you manifest to be

be of the body of Anti-christ, and not of the body of Christ the true Church; the members of the body of Christ abide in his doctrine, and follow the example of the true Christians, every particular member having a word of exhortation, as they are moved of the Lord, may have free liberty to speak in the Saints Assembly, according to the order of the Primitive Church, the Church in God; but ye who deny the order of the true Church, and follow your own ways and imaginations, manifest your disorder, and shews that ye are out of the true way of God, the true worship of God, in the false way, and worship ye know not what; my wayes saith the Lord is not as the way of man, my thoughts as the thoughts of man; such as follow their own thoughts, and their own imagined wayes goes out of the way of God; the true light, is the way of God, and in it the will and minde of God is revealed, and the power manifested which brings the creature into subjection, makes subject to the requirings of God; and brings to know the true Church the body of Christ, and the true and perfect order thereof; but this is not a fancy or an naturall light, a thought or an imagination; but a cross to all such things; a living divine holy substantiall principle which manifests thoughts, imaginations and inventions, and the ground and rise of them, which is the earthly sensuall wilddome; in which God is not known nor served; for God is light, and in the light and truth is served and worshipped; the children of light, served God in the spirit, and gloried in Iesus Christ, and put no confidence in the flesh; carnall professors, the upholders of carnall Ordinances, Rudiments, weak and beggerly elements, are led by their fleshly imaginations to uphold such shadows without life, and be from the spirit, the substance in which is the life, wherein God is served and worshipped; in which the Saints in light served God in the former ages, as in this age, but the flesh delights in the

Phil. 3.

observation of carnal ordinances, because they have their rise and foundation from its imagination; and it glories in what it doth invent; but all such glorying is vaine; he that glorieth let him glory in the truth, in the Lord; and let no man trust to the arme of flesh, nor put confidence in its imagination, for all that glory in the flesh, their glory will be turned into shame and confusion; Take notice the end of fleshly glory is confusion and shame, and ye who are highly pult up and exalted in your fleshly knowledge and wisdom, God will bring down and abase and confound, for no flesh shall glory in the pure presence of God; and the poor in spirit, the meek and lowly in heart, God will raise up and exalt over all the earth, in this the day of his power, wherein he is bringing great and marvelous things to pass, which hath not been seen in many ages, his own sheep he will gather into his fold, and them preserve by the arme of his eternall power, and will scatter and consume the Wolves (who have got the Sheeps clothing) and all the renting, tearing, ravening and devouring Beasts, which hath rent and torne the Innocent Lambs.

And ye who be in the flesh, in the carnall ordinances, fly to the Magistrates sword for refuge, which likewise makes you clearly manifest to be out of the truth and true way of God; for the truth defends itself, and hath done in all ages, it needs not the help of the Magistrates sword, neither did ever the antient Christians, who gave forth the Scripture of truth, seek to the Magistrates to defend them, their weapons were not carnall they fought with but spirituall, the spirit of truth was their defence, the Magistrates sword (or the outward Law, the arme of flesh) hath been the refuge of Anti-christ in all ages as it is at this day, for if any of the servants of the Lord the true worshippers, who worship him in spirit and in truth be moved of God, to goe into their meeting places (which they call Churches) and in obedience to the command
of

of God, speak to the Priest, or a word of exhortation to the people, then cries our both Priest and people haile him away, or words to that purpose, and calls it disturbance, (to performe the will of the Lord) and goes to the Magistrates for assistance, and cries away with him, send him to prison or punish him, this is the practise of the carnall professors who uphold the externall Temple and Synagogues, therefore view your disorder and be ashamed of such gross and filthy practises; for ye Rulers, Priests and people in *England*, in these late years have outstript the Heathen in many ages, in your cruell persecution; which makes the hearts of the righteous sad, to see such fruits brought forth in the Nation, where so much liberty in words and writings is proclaimed for Religion, and honest hearted people, by the supream in authority; but woe, woe, from the Almighty unto you, who make the hearts of the innocent sad, which God hath not made sad; a day of torment, and misery is coming upon you; where in the righteous shall be glad, which ye have made sad, and over the smoke of your torment, they shal rejoyce, Did ever the Primitive Christians recorded in the holy Scripture, persecute any, prison, whip, burn with hot Irons, or cast into Dungeons any sort of people, that came into their Assemblies, is not the Heathen your example, for these things, who persecuted and shamefully entreated and murdered the Christians, who could not submit to their unrighteous decrees and unreasonable wills, shew one example of cruelty if you can, from the practise of Christ or his Disciples, if not, number your selves amongst the Heathen your example for your cruell persecution; is not cruelty and persecution, a true marke to know the Synagogue of Satan by; from the body of Christ the Church in God? who in all ages hath suffered, but never persecuted any, but prayed for their enemies which persecuted them, &c.

The order of the Church in God in this age.

THe body of Christ, the Church in God meet together, (as the Saints in light did in former ages) upon the first dayes of the week, and upon other dayes as the Lord affords opportunity, and wait upon the Lord in his fear and Counsell, and serve and worship the Lord, in the Spirit and in the truth; and doth preach the word of truth, the everlasting Gospel, and pray and exhort one another as they are moved of the Lord, and as the holy spirit gives utterance; but not in the wisdom of the world which is sensuall, but in the pure wisdom and power of God, which by the world is counted foolishness; And this is the true and onely way of God, the true way of worship, and order of the body of Christ, the Church of God, as the Scripture of truth doth make manifest to the understanding Reader, and according to the doctrine of Christ, the order doctrine and practise of the ancient holy Christians, which in the Scriptures of truth are recorded; who worshipped God not in the oldness of the letter; but newness of spirit, which is the new and living way, wherein God is and will be served and worshipped.

Rom. 6.

I. H.

THE END.

